

## SPECIAL TARIFF POSITION OF PHILIPPINES

*Exchange of notes at Washington May 4 and June 10, 1946, modifying  
treaty of May 13, 1858  
Entered into force June 10, 1946*

61 Stat. 2436; Treaties and Other  
International Acts Series 1572

*The Acting Secretary of State to the Bolivian Ambassador*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

May 4 1946

### EXCELLENCY:

With reference to the forthcoming independence of the Philippines on July 4, 1946, my Government considers that provision for a transitional period for dealing with the special tariff position which Philippine products have occupied for many years in the United States is an essential accompaniment to Philippine Independence. Accordingly, under the Philippine Trade Act approved April 30, 1946,<sup>1</sup> goods the growth, produce or manufacture of the Philippines will enter the United States free of duty until 1954, after which they will be subject to gradually and regularly increasing rates of duty or decreasing duty-free quotas until 1974 when general rates will become applicable and all preferences will be completely eliminated.

Since the enactment of the Philippine Independence Act approved March 24, 1934,<sup>2</sup> my Government has foreseen the probable necessity of providing for such a transitional period and has since then consistently excepted from most-favored-nation obligations which it has undertaken toward foreign governments advantages which it might continue to accord to Philippine products after the proclamation of Philippine independence. Some thirty instruments in force with other governments, for example, permit the continuation of the exceptional tariff treatment now accorded by my Government to Philippine products, irrespective of the forthcoming change in the Commonwealth's political status.

With a view, therefore, to placing the relations between the United States and Bolivia upon the same basis, with respect to the matters involved, as the relations existing under the treaties and agreements referred to in the preced-

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<sup>1</sup> 60 Stat. 141.

<sup>2</sup> 48 Stat. 456.

ing paragraph, I have the honor to propose that the most-favored-nation provisions of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between the United States and Bolivia signed May 13, 1858,<sup>a</sup> shall not be understood to require the extension to Bolivia of advantages accorded by the United States to the Philippines.

In view of the imminence of the inauguration of an independent Philippine Government, I should be glad to have the reply of Your Excellency's Government to this proposal at an early date.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

DEAN ACHESON  
*Acting Secretary of State*

His Excellency  
Señor Don VICTOR ANDRADE  
*Ambassador of Bolivia*

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*The Bolivian Ambassador to the Secretary of State*

EMBAJADA DE BOLIVIA  
WASHINGTON

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to refer to Your Excellency's note of May 4, 1946, with regard to the provision that the most favored nation clause of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between the United States and Bolivia, signed May 13, 1858, shall not be understood to require the extension to Bolivia of advantages accorded by the United States to the Philippines.

In appreciation of the facts explained in Your Excellency's note, and as an act of friendship to the Philippine Nation in the achieving of its independence, I have the honor to express, on behalf of the Bolivian Government, the acceptance of this proposition.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

V. ANDRADE  
*Washington, D.C., June 10, 1946*

His Excellency  
Mr. JAMES F. BYRNES  
*Secretary of State*  
*Washington, D.C.*

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<sup>a</sup> TS 32, *ante*, p. 721.